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Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /074 W
----------191602Z 095807 /53
R 191218Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3434
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0208

E.O. 11652: &$
TAGS: PFOR, SU, KS, KN, ET
SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN ENVOY VISITS KHARTOUM

REF: 76 KHARTOUM 3783

1. DPRK VICE PREMIER CHONG CHUN KI VISITED KHARTOUM AS SPECIAL ENVOY OF KIM IL SUNG JAN 13-18. HE CARRIED MESSAGE FROM NORTH KOREAN LEADER TO PRESIDENT NIMEIRI AND WHILE HERE MET TOP GOS AND SSU LEADERS INCLUDING NIMEIRI HIMSELF. THROUGHOUT VISIT HE WAS GIVEN CORRECT VIP TREATMENT. VISIT RECEIVED PROMINENT COVERAGE IN LOCAL MEDIA. HOWEVER, THERE LITTLE PUBLIC INDICATION SUBSTANCE HIS DISCUSSIONS, EXCEPT THAT BOTH SIDES CALLED FOR CONTINUATION FRIENDLY RELATIONS THAT TRADITIONALLY HAVE EXISTED BETWEEN THEM.

2. ACCORDING SOUTH KOREAN CONGEN KIM DONG KUN, CHONG INDIRECTLY CRITICIZED ROK AS "IMPERIALIST" DURING HIS MEETING WITH NIMEIRI, WHILE AT SAME TIME GIVING ASSURANCE THAT NORTH KOREA DESIRES MAINTAIN CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH SUDAN AND IS REDOUBLING EFFORTS TO COMPLETE
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MAJOR YOUTH "PALACE" IN OMDURMAN ON SCHEDULE. NIMEIRI REPORTEDLY REPLIED FRANKLY THAT GOS WOULD HAVE FULL RELATIONS WITH ROK IN NEAR FUTURE.

3. CONGEN KIM CLAIMS TO HAVE HEARD INDIRECTLY FROM NIMEIRI'S KEY FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR, MANSOUR KHALID, THAT NORTH KOREANS ARE PROVIDING GUERRILLA TRAINING FOR ANSAR (ANTI-

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GOS) REBELS IN ETHIOPIA BUT KIM PROFESSED IGNORANCE SOURCE OR ACCURACY THIS REPORT. SUBORDINATE OF KIM'S RECENTLY NOTED THAT NORTH KOREANS HAVE PROVIDED GUERRILLA TRAINING IN LIBYA WHICH MIGHT SUPPORT ABOVE ALLEGATIONS. SUBORDINATE ALSO ALLEGED THAT NORTH KOREA HAD ASKED PRC TO INTERCEDE IN ITS BEHALF WITH GOS TO STALL EVOLUTION GOS/ROK RELATIONS. APPARENTLY LOCAL CHINESE AMB DID SO WITH, ROK SOURCE THOUGHT, SOME SUCCESS.

4. COMMENT: SEEMS CLEAR VISIT DPRK EMISSARY HAS NOT MATERIALLY AFFECTED GOS SCHEDULE TO MOVE TOWARD NORMAL RELATIONS WITH ROK. UNDERSTAND FROM BOTH MINSTATE FONAFFS DENG AND CONGEN KIM, THAT DENG AND WIFE WILL PAY OFFICIAL VISIT SOUTH KOREA IN LATE FEBRUARY. VISIT WAS ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED BY SOUTH KOREAN FIRM WHICH IS PLANNING TAKE ON SPECIAL $15 MILLION GUEST HOUSE PROJECT FOR 1978 OAU MEETING HERE. KOREAN BUSINESSMAN CLAIMED MOST ELEMENTS ROK GOVT WERE SUPPORTING THIS PROJECT BUT FONMINISTRY IN SEOUL WAS FOOTDRAGGING AND VISIT BY CABINET LEVEL OFFICIAL FROM SUDANESE FONMINISTRY WOULD BE HELPFULZM WE CONCLUDE THAT GOS/ROK CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME OVER AID AND DIPLOMATIC RECONGINTION IS CONTINUING BUT THAT GUEST HOUSE PROJECT WILL BE SIGNED IN FEBRUARY IN CONJUNCTION DENG'S VISIT SEOUL. BREWER

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